

## **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

*This listing of claims replaces all prior listing and versions of claims in the application:*

- 1. (Currently Amended)** A gateway ~~for connecting networks of different types~~[[,]] for connecting a first network and a second network ~~which uses~~ using a signal format different from that of the first network, said gateway comprising:

  - a conversion section operable to convert a first signal used in the first network to a second signal used in the second network, and [[a]] the second signal used in the second network to [[a]] the first signal ~~to be~~ used in the first network, when communication is performed between a terminal connected to the first network and a terminal connected to the second network;
  - a detection section operable to detect as conversion-process information ~~containing~~ at least one of a time said conversion section spent to convert the first signal or the second signal, and an amount of data converted; and
  - a network-connecting section operable to connect to at least one of the first network and the second network and operable to transmit the conversion-process information to a fee-charging system of the first network or to a fee-charging system of the second network.
- 2. (Original)** The gateway according to claim 1, wherein said conversion section converts at least one of a call-control signal generated by call-connection signaling, an audio signal generated by an audio CODEC and a video signal generated by a video CODEC.
- 3. (Original)** The gateway according to claim 2, wherein said conversion section comprises a signaling gateway unit which converts the call-control signal and a media gateway unit which converts the audio signal and the video signal, wherein said detecting section detects the conversion-process information used in a conversion process in the media gateway unit.
- 4. (Original)** The gateway according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the conversion of the call-control signal is conversion between a Q.931 signal and an SIP signal, the conversion of the audio signal is conversion between an AMR bit stream and a G.723.1 signal, and the

conversion of the video signal is conversion between an MPEG4 bit stream and an H.263 signal.

**5. (Currently Amended)** A system for charging fees for communication between networks of different types, said system comprising:

- a first terminal operable to perform a call control, the first terminal being connected to a first network;
- a second terminal operable to respond to the call control performed by the first terminal, the second terminal being connected to a second network; and
- a gateway operable to connect the first network and the second network~~[[,]] wherein using a second signal format different from a first signal format used by the first network and the second network use different signal formats,~~ the first network ~~comprises~~ comprising a fee-charging system~~[[,]]~~;

the gateway converts a first signal of the first signal format from the first network to a second signal ~~suitable for a~~ of the second signal format of the second network and transmits the second signal to the second network, converts the second signal from the second network to the first signal ~~suitable for the signal format~~ of the first network and transmits the first signal to the first network, detects as conversion-process information ~~containing~~ at least one of a time spent to convert the first signal or the second signal and an amount of data converted, and transmits the conversion-process information to the fee-charging system, and

the fee-charging system performs a fee-charging process in accordance with the conversion-process information, to charge a fee for a user of the first terminal.

**6. (Original)** The system according to claim 5, wherein the gateway detects the conversion-process information after the first terminal and the second terminal have been connected to each other.

**7. (Original)** The system according to claim 5, wherein the gateway detects the conversion-process information about at least one of a signal generated by an audio CODEC and a signal generated by a video CODEC.

**8. (Currently Amended)** A method of charging fees for communication between networks of different types, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first network and a second network using a signal format different from that of the first network[[,]] by means of a gateway operable to convert a first ~~communication~~ signal from a first terminal connected to the first network to a second signal suitable for [[a]] the signal format of the second network and to convert [[a]] the second ~~communication~~ signal from a second terminal connected to the second network to [[a]] the first signal suitable for the signal format of the first network;

detecting as conversion-process information ~~containing~~ at least one of a time spent to convert the first or second ~~communication~~ signal and an amount of data converted, said signal having been transmitted after the first terminal and the second terminal have been connected to each other[[,]] by the gateway;

transmitting the conversion-process information to a fee-charging system of the network to which the first terminal or the second terminal that is a calling side is connected, by the gateway; and

charging a fee for a user of ~~the~~ a calling-side terminal, the calling-side terminal being one of the first terminal and the second terminal, said fee being fixed or calculated on a basis of communication time[[,]] based on the conversion-process information[[,]] by the fee-charging system.

**9. (Original)** The method according to claim 8, wherein the conversion-process information includes at least one of the time spent to convert signals in an audio CODEC and video CODEC and the amount of data converted therein.